

Maryland State Board of Victim Services Meeting
Staffed by the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services
Wednesday, January 27, 2021
10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Meeting Minutes

Participating Members:

Steve Kelly, Esq., Chair
Barbara Bond, Vice-Chair
Anne Bean
Anne Colt Leites, Esq.
Barbara Darley for V. Glenn Fueston, Jr.
Jessica Dickerson for Secretary Sam Abed
Lou Gieszl
Theresa Hiegel
Laurie Kimbles for Sheriff Gary Hofmann
Molly Knipe
Steve Levin, Esq.
LaJoy Preston
Joe Riley, Esq.
Jill Ritter
Alonzo Robertson, Esq.
Lisa Smith, Esq.
Lisa Spicknall
Patricia Stevens for Secretary Robert Green
Jeanne Yeager

Guests:

Amelia Rubenstein, SAFE Center for Human Trafficking Survivors

Governor's Office of Crime Prevention Youth, and Victim Services Staff:

Rebecca Allyn
Heather Amador
David Blum
Angela Cromwell
Erica Hiner

I. Welcome and Introductions

The meeting was called to order at 10:02 a.m. Ms. Allyn conducted a roll call and guests introduced themselves.

II. Consent Agenda

The consent agenda contained the October 2020 Board meeting minutes, the Governor's Family Violence Council updates, and updates from the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services.

- *Governor's Family Violence Council Updates*: Abuse intervention program certification applications will be due in June 2021, exact date TBD.
- *Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services Updates*: The Office is accepting applications for domestic violence central repository certification through February 5, 2021. Information on the certification can be found [here](#).
- *Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services Grant Updates*: The Office received over \$40 million in requests for the Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Fund grant, with only \$10 million available and awarded. More information on the funding can be found [here](#).
- Notice of Funding Availability (NOFAs) for state grants will be released in the spring, including the Maryland Victims of Crime program and the Legal Services for Crime Victims program. These grants are overseen by the Board, and members will need to assist with reviewing applications for both grant programs in late April.

Mr. Riley made a motion to approve the consent agenda; Ms. Ritter seconded the motion. All members were in favor and the consent agenda was approved.

III. Human Trafficking Presentation

Ms. Rubenstein provided members and guests with a presentation on multi-disciplinary teams and culturally sensitive services for human trafficking survivors. Ms. Rubenstein outlined the difference between cultural competency and cultural humility, and shared tips for language access and cultural considerations.

IV. Strategic Plan Discussion

Members discussed that it would be helpful to hold an orientation to review legislative mandates and review the role of the Board. Ms. Allyn will schedule an orientation prior to the next meeting.

Board members agreed that the climate of victim services has changed, partly due to the pandemic, and that new goals and priorities of the Board should be established. Ms. Allyn will share a survey with members following the meeting in order to gauge member's interest in assisting with developing recommendations for priorities and goals.

V. NCVRW Events

Ms. Allyn shared that the 31st Annual Memorial Services for Crime Victims and Their Families will be hosted by the Baltimore City, Charles, Dorchester, and Frederick County State's Attorneys' Offices, along with the Board, on Sunday, April 18.

The 2021 Maryland Crime Victims' Rights Conference will be held virtually on April 19-22 through Whova, an online event manager, and Zoom. Ms. Allyn asked for suggestions for workshops at the conference and members requested to schedule another meeting for conference planning.

VI. Old/New Business

Mr. Robertson shared that the Maryland Crime Victims' Resource Center has become aware of a change with the Maryland Electronic Courts (MDEC) system where the status of victims' attorneys who have entered their appearance on behalf of crime victims will be removed from cases and instead listed as victims' advocates. The concern is that this does not allow the victims' attorney the same access to MDEC filed documents, as allowed to attorneys working on behalf of the State or defendants. Mr. Gieszl with the Administrative Office of the Courts offered to look into this and report back to the Board.

Mr. Robertson shared that the [2021 Healing City Baltimore Summit](#) will be held on February 3-7 and he will provide information to Ms. Allyn to share with all members.

Members asked for a list of victim related legislation. Ms. Allyn will put the list together and share with members.

VII. Adjournment

Ms. Bond made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Mr. Robertson seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:45 a.m.

NEXT MEETING:

Wednesday, April 7, 2021

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Meeting ID: meet.google.com/pjq-ksug-dnf

Phone Number: 1 415-870-6607

PIN: 533 205 601#